

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 9, 2015 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened by announcing that this was an open meeting of the Common Council. Notice of this meeting was given to the public at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by forwarding the complete agenda to the official City newspaper, The New Richmond News, and to all news media who have requested the same as well as posting. Copies of the complete agenda were available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the City Clerk's office.

Roll call was taken.

Members Present: Mayor Horne, Alderman Kittel, Ard, Jackson, Hansen, Volkert
Zajkowski, Student Representatives Victoria Johnson and Jesse Stenske

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Zajkowski moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Public Comment

There was none.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Regular Council Meeting, October 12, 2015, Special Council Meetings, October 5, 2015 and October 26, 2015
2. Application for License to Serve from Kirsten C. Konder, Glenwood City; Kyle J. Wettig, New Richmond; and Amy L. Kahler, Emerald
3. Payment of VO#58633 through VO#58710 totaling \$233,690.78 plus electronic fund transfers of \$611,106.24 for a grand total of \$844,797.02

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | \$ 658,063.59 |
| Impact Fees Fund | 7,500.00 |
| CDBG – Housing | 3,338.00 |
| Debt Service Fund | 47,091.97 |
| Capital Projects | 3,000.00 |
| Landfill Cleanup Fund | 5,696.72 |
| TIF District #6 | 17,858.79 |
| TIF District #8 | 86,057.45 |
| Storm Water Utility | 13,247.26 |
| Park Land Trust Fund | 2,880.39 |
| Library Trust Fund | 62.85 |

Alderman Hansen moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Alderman Jackson and carried.

Department Reports

Administration- Mike Darrow stated that last week he, Scottie, Jane and Noah attended the League conference in Milwaukee. Also, if anyone has questions about the 2016 budget, please call Mike or stop in and talk to him.

Public Works – Jeremiah Wendt gave an update on street construction projects. We received notification that the City of New Richmond will receive \$70,000 in grant funds for the water tower project completed earlier this summer from the DNR safe drinking water loan funds. Jeremiah will also look into applying for funds from the DNR and from the local roads improvement fund for 2016 projects.

Community Development – Beth Thompson reported Goodwill had their groundbreaking on October 27, 2015. Grant Way will have the first lift of pavement completed this week and Culver's is planning to have their official opening on December 7, 2015.

Plan Commission Recommendation- Ordinance #480

Beth Thompson explained that the Plan Commission discussed several text amendments to the zoning ordinance at the meeting on November 3, 2015. Alderman Hansen moved to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance #480, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Finance Committee Recommendation – 2016 Property Insurance

Mike Darrow explained that the Local Government Property Insurance Fund increased their premiums for 2016 by 85 percent to \$73,746. Municipal Property Insurance Company, which was newly established in early 2015, has given us a quote of \$50,201. This company has mirrored the LGPIF policy. The Finance Committee recommended to go with Municipal Property Insurance Company for 2016 at a cost of \$50,201. Alderman Ard moved to withdraw from the Local Government Property Insurance Fund and switch to Municipal Property Insurance Company for \$50,201 for 2016, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

Public Works – Evergreen Valley Stormwater Outlot

Jeremiah Wendt explained that there is an outlot in Evergreen Valley owned by a developer that the City does not have an easement on to maintain or repair the stormwater ponds. Taxes have not been paid on the lot for several years and an adjacent property owner has expressed interest in purchasing the parcel. Jeremiah would like to get an easement on that lot to allow the City to enter and maintain the stormwater feature in the event that the owner fails to take care of it. Alderman Ard moved to acquire the easement, seconded by Alderman Jackson and carried.

Public Works – Sidewalk Ordinance Amendment

The Public Works Committee, Finance Committee and City Council have discussed the sidewalk ordinance and suggested the following changes:

- 1) Public Works Committee will make an annual recommendation to the Council of sidewalks to be repaired.
- 2) For existing streets where new sidewalk is constructed, the City will bear the full cost of the sidewalk construction.
- 3) For sidewalk repairs less than \$100, the City will bear the full cost of the repair.
- 4) For sidewalk replacements, the City and abutting property owner will split the cost 50/50.

Alderman Kittel suggested having a procedure in place for residents that cannot afford the cost of repairing or replacing the sidewalk. Jeremiah will bring back suggested wording for this change.

Public Works – Tandem Axle Plow Truck Bids

Jeremiah Wendt received the following quotes for plow trucks:

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|--------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Boyer | \$193,951 | available in 2016 |
| Astleford | \$189,000 | available in 2015 |
| Nuss | \$199,252 | available in 2016 |
| Menomonie | \$186,252 | available in 2016 |
| River States | \$181,712 | available in 2016 |
| V & H | \$187,968 | available in 2016 |

Jeremiah also explained that all trucks other than the Astleford truck are not available for at least six months. We are currently down one truck for the 2015-2016 plowing season. The Finance Committee recommended purchasing the truck from Astleford for \$189,000. A down payment of \$70,000 would be paid in 2015, \$40,000 in 2016 and the balance paid in 2017. Alderman Hansen moved to approve this recommendation, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Paperjack Drive Open House Review/Design Recommendation

Jeremiah Wendt reported that lots of good feedback was received at this meeting. There was considerable discussion regarding road width, sidewalk location, curb style and planting of trees.

Council members requested having an additional meeting with the residents and cost estimates for a pedestrian bridge along the bridge on the East end of Paperjack Drive.

Park Board Recommendation – Skate Park

Jeremiah Wendt stated that the Park Board established the following donor recognition levels:

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|---------------|---------------------|
| Naming Rights | \$70,000 |
| Platinum | \$20,000 - \$69,000 |
| Gold | \$5,000 – \$19,000 |
| Silver | \$500 - \$4,999 |
| Bronze | \$100 – \$499 |
| Stakeholder | \$1 - \$99 |

There was also discussion regarding the creation of a “Friends of the Skate Park” group to take donations. Alderman Ard gave suggestions for donor levels. Alderman Kittel moved to create a “Friends of the Skate Park” group, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan

City Staff would like to assemble a small committee to help update the bike and pedestrian master plan and would like a council member to serve on the committee. Mayor Horne appointed Jim Zajkowski to serve on this committee.

2016 Budget Update

Sean Lentz gave a review of Tax Incremental Finance Districts in the City. Mike Darrow gave a quick update on the 2016 Budget. The budget notice will go to the paper on Friday with a 2% increase. Staff will continue to work on going below that amount of increase.

Council Work Session – November 23, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda items should be submitted to staff.

Communications and Miscellaneous

The bike coalition meeting will be on November 11, 2015. Beth Thompson will find out the time and put it on facebook and twitter. Alderman Ard reminded everyone that November 11th is Veteran’s Day and schools in New Richmond and throughout St. Croix County will be having programs in celebration.

Closed Session

Alderman Ard moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(c)(f) – “Consideration of moving into closed session pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(c) and (f), Stats., to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data and the preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems of an employee over which the City has jurisdiction and the discussion in public would likely have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of that employee and deliberating or negotiating and/or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jackson and carried.

Open Session

No action was taken.

Alderman Ard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Tanya Reigel
City Clerk